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920476-907233

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In the application of** : David M Goodman  
**Serial No.** : 09/537,361  
**Filed** : March 29, 2000  
**For** : Message Signaling in a Synchronous  
Transmission Apparatus  
**Examiner** : Inder P Mehra  
**Art Unit** : 2666  
**Customer number** : 23644

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the above -  
identified examiner at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (703)  
872-9314 on July 16, 2004

Name of person signing Jennifer J. Ramirez  
Signature 

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JULY 7, 2004**

Honorable Director of Patents and Trademarks  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir,

In response to the Office Action mailed July 7, 2004, applicant responds as follows:-